UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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TWO FISHERIES ATTACHES POSTS FILLED

Growing interest of the United States in fishery developments around the world was underscored today by the announcement that two new regional fishery attaches have been appointed for Latin America and West Africa.

The new appointees are Richard S. Croker of Portland, Ore., assigned to the United States Embassy in Mexico City; and George B. Gross, St. Petersburg, Fla., who will serve for West African countries from Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

The attaches will provide information designed to keep the United States Government and the domestic fishing industry abreast of marketing conditions and other worldwide fishery developments.

Similar attache posts already have been filled in Tokyo and Copenhagen. The fisheries attache program is operated by the Department of State in cooperation with the Interior Department's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

Mr. Croker recently was executive director of the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission, an interstate compact among Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California. He also has been chief of the Marine Resources Branch, California Department of Fish and Game, and fisheries consultant and instructor at the Food and Agricultural Organization's Training Center in Valparaiso, Chile. Mr. Croker also was an advisor to the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission and a member of the State Department's Fisheries Advisory Committee.

Mr. Gross is transferring from the position of Regional Marketing Coordinator, Gulf and South Atlantic Region, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, St. Petersburg, Fla. He has had many years' diversified experience in commercial fisheries, both in government and in private industry. In his most recent assignment, Mr. Gross has been responsible for coordinating fishery marketing programs in eight States.

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